

Newsletter of the

BUNCOM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

November 2002



AND NOW, THE RESTORED BUNKHOUSE



Thanks to member Frank Maesen, the Buncom Bunkhouse now has its windows restored. Using most of the original frames, Frank was able to replace the panes and leave the windows able to open, to provide air circulation on Buncom Day.

This work completes the major restoration of the three buildings, leaving them in what historians call a state of "arrested decay," restoring them only to a certain point in time.

Newsletter on Website

Look for this Newsletter on our website, www.buncom.org. It, and future issues, should be available there shortly.

Spending a Summer at Buncom Half a Century Ago

When Howard Huff was 15 and growing up in San Diego, he joined a friend for the summer of 1944 in the Little Applegate. Huff, who now lives in Paradise, CA, wrote a long account of his summer. Here is an excerpt:

One day Mr. Babcock [with whom I was living] asked me to take one of his cows up to another rancher's place which was just past Buncom ... At the intersection were three buildings which were still standing from the gold mining days in the area but in dilapidated condition. I think one had been a post office, another a store, and the third a house. Walking the cow was easy to do as the cow led easily with a rope around her neck and we ambled along and shortly arrived at the ranch where the owner was waiting (if my memory serves me correctly this was a ranch called "The Circle G"). What hadn't been told or explained to me was that the cow was ready for breeding, with arrangements made for this to take place in the corral where the owner had a registered bull. It didn't even dawn on me until the cow was committed to the corral and the bull began to get excited and started to carry out his assignment. I think and felt every one was watching me for a reaction. About the only thing I could do was to act nonchalant and try to ignore the activity which had become pretty animated. I couldn't leave because I was told to

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PRESERVING BUNCOM'S TREES

Buncom's pine trees are under a lot of stress, so we are taking steps to make sure they will be alive and healthy for many years.

First, we are going to restrict parking on the grounds. Compaction of the soil, especially during the wet season, is affecting the trees' health. We ask everyone's cooperation in restricting parking to the edge of the road and the gravel area by the Community Billboard.

Second, we will be installing drip irrigation on the hillside above Buncom so water will percolate down the hill and give the trees the nourishment they need during our dry summers.



Buncom's Tall Trees

SUMMER (from Page 1)

bring the cow back and anyway there was no place for me to gracefully withdraw. I don't remember the comments afterward but a few grins were evident. I'm sure if someone had asked me, "Well, how did things go, Howard?" I probably would have stammered something unintelligible under my breath.

Vandals and Litterers

We've been fortunate at Buncom over the years that there has only been a small amount of vandalism and littering. But in the last month we've sadly seen vandalism take a turn for the worse, and an ultimate example of littering.

Not long after the new windows were installed in the Bunkhouse -- plexiglas to resist damage -- someone tried to break through and cracked four of them.

Not long after that, someone left an old dented red Subaru station wagon. The keys were still in it but the battery was gone. Before the sheriff hauled it away, we were told it was probably stolen and abandoned.

In the past, vandalism has consisted of knocking out one or two of the plexiglas windows in the Post Office -- easily put back in the frames -- and a few beer cans left around the grounds.

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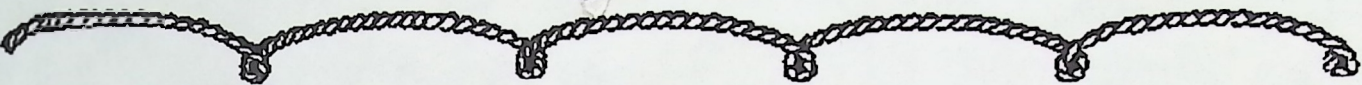
Ben Fowler 899-7805
Connie Fowler

The Buncom Historical Society is a non-profit corporation dedicated to preserving the buildings and history of the ghost town of Buncom, Oregon. Society address: 3232 Little Applegate Road, Jacksonville, OR 97530.

On the Internet:
www.buncom.org

To join the Society, send \$5.00 with your name and address to the Society at 3232 Little Applegate Road, Jacksonville, OR 97530.

Save the Date: 10th annual Buncom Day, May 24th



It's Membership Renewal Time

It's time to renew memberships for the year 2003. Dues remain the same, \$5.00 per family. For that princely sum you get a quarterly newsletter and the right to tell all your friends that you are members! Just fill out the form below and send it with \$5.00 to the address at the bottom.

And here's something else to remember: If you're looking for an unusual and inexpensive Christmas gift, how about a Society membership?

BUNCOM HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP DUES

Here are my/our membership dues for 2003. Enclosed is \$5.00 for an individual or family membership.

Here is my/our name as we would like it to appear on the mailing list:

Name: _____

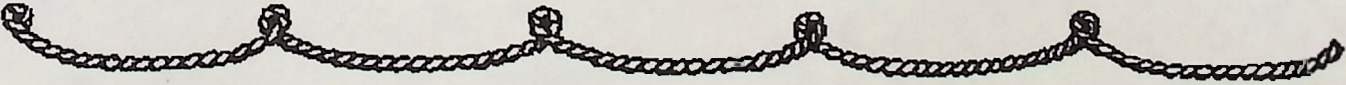
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